

Docket AUS920010253US1

Appl. No.: 09/925,585  
Filing Date: 08/09/2001**IN THE CLAIMS**

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (currently amended) A method for generating a survey for a computer system client on a network, the method comprising the steps of:

providing storing a survey document on a computer-readable medium of a first computer system, the survey document having questions and answers in a certain format for delivery over a network to a client second computer system and for presenting ones of the survey document questions and answers for selecting by a user of the second computer on a network, wherein according to the certain format of the survey document, the questions and answers are defined as data elements included in the survey document as strings of text surrounded by text markups, including tags describing the data elements and attributes defining associations among the questions and answers, including associations such that ones of the questions branch from ones of the answers, the format defining branches for the questions, wherein whether a first one of the questions branches to a second one of the questions or to a third one of the questions, depends on an answer for the first question; and

providing storing programming instructions on a computer-readable medium of the first computer system, the programming instructions being for delivery over the network to the second computer system client on the network, including instructions for causing the second computer system to parse the data elements from the survey document into data arrays having cross-references defining the associations among questions and answers, and instructions for causing which cause the client second computer system to display on a user interface certain ones of the questions, including the first one of the questions, and branch to and display on the user interface the second and or third ones of the questions, or else not branch to and display the second and third ones of the questions, responsive to an answer selected by the user and received by the second computer system for the first question and responsive to ones of the cross-references defining the associations among the first, second and third one of the questions.

2-3. (canceled)

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4. (currently amended) The method of claim 2, comprising the step of:  
~~providing storing a data type definition file on a computer-readable medium of a first~~  
~~computer system, the data type definition file being for delivery over the network to the second~~  
~~computer system~~~~client on the network~~, wherein the programming instructions include  
instructions for causing the ~~client~~ second computer system to validate the data elements  
responsive to the document type definition file.

5. (currently amended) The method of claim 4, wherein the programming instructions are  
included in a document that includes information for displaying by a browser running on the  
~~client~~ second computer system and directions for how the browser should display the  
information, and the programming instructions include instructions in an object oriented,  
interpreted, dynamic programming language.

6. (original) The method of claim 5 wherein the programming language includes Java.

7. (currently amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the programming instructions  
include instructions for causing the ~~client~~ second computer system to return survey results to a  
~~server~~ the first computer system as a document defining the answers as data elements included in  
the survey document as strings of text surrounded by text markups, including tags, wherein the  
text markups describe the data elements.

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8. (currently amended) A computer program product for generating a survey for a ~~client~~first computer system on a network, the computer program product comprising:  
~~instructions a survey document on a computer-readable medium for delivery to a client~~  
~~the computer system on the network, the survey document having questions and answers in a~~  
~~certain format for presenting ones of the survey document questions and answers for selecting by~~  
~~a user of a computer, wherein according to the certain format of the survey document, the~~  
~~questions and answers are defined as data elements included in the survey document as strings of~~  
~~text surrounded by text markups, including tags describing the data elements and attributes~~  
~~defining associations among the questions and answers, including associations such that ones of~~  
~~the questions branch from ones of the answers; and~~  
~~programming instructions on a computer-readable medium including instructions for~~  
~~delivery to the computer system on the network, the programming instructions including~~  
~~instructions for causing the computer system to parse the data elements from the survey~~  
~~document into data arrays having cross-references defining the associations among questions and~~  
~~answers, and instructions for causing the computer system to display on a user interface certain~~  
~~ones of the questions, including the first one of the questions, and branch to and display on the~~  
~~user interface the second and third ones of the questions, or else not branch to and display the~~  
~~second and third ones of the questions, responsive to an answer selected by the user and received~~  
~~by the computer system for the first question and responsive to ones of the cross-references~~  
~~defining the associations among the first, second and third one of the questions,~~  
~~wherein the instructions are for causing the client to display on a user interface, responsive to a~~  
~~survey document, certain questions, including a first one of the questions, and branch to and~~  
~~display on the user interface second or third ones of the questions responsive to the survey~~  
~~document and an answer received for the first question, and wherein the survey document has~~  
~~questions and answers in a certain format defining branches of the questions, wherein whether~~  
~~the first one of the questions branches to the second one of the questions, or to the third one of~~  
~~the questions, depends on an answer for the first question.~~

9-10. (canceled)

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11. (currently amended) The computer program product of claim 9, wherein the programming instructions include instructions for causing the ~~client~~second computer system to validate the data elements responsive to a document type definition file.

12. (currently amended) The computer program product of claim 11, wherein the programming instructions are included in a document that includes information for displaying by a browser running on the ~~client~~second computer system and directions for how the browser should display the information, and the programming instructions include instructions in an object oriented, interpreted, dynamic programming language.

13. (original) The computer program product of claim 12 wherein the programming language includes Java.

14. (currently amended) The computer program product of claim 8, wherein the programming instructions include instructions for causing the ~~client~~second computer system to return survey results to a server ~~the first computer system~~ as a document defining the answers as data elements included in the survey document as strings of text surrounded by text markups, including tags, wherein the text markups describe the data elements.

15. (currently amended) A server~~first computer system~~ comprising:  
a processor for connecting to a network;  
a storage device coupled to the processor, wherein the storage device has a computer-readable medium is for storing:

a survey document for delivery to a second computer system on the network, the survey document having questions and answers in a certain format for presenting ones of the survey document questions and answers for selecting by a user of the second computer, wherein according to the certain format of the survey document, the questions and answers are defined as data elements included in the survey document as strings of text surrounded by text markups, including tags describing the data elements and attributes defining associations among the questions and answers.

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including associations such that ones of the questions branch from ones of the answers; and  
a survey document having questions and answers in a certain format defining branches of the questions, wherein whether a first one of the questions branches to a second one of the questions, or instead to a third one of the questions, depends on an answer for the first question, and

programming instructions, including instructions for causing the second computer system to parse the data elements from the survey document into data arrays having cross-references defining the associations among questions and answers, and instructions for causing the second computer system to display on a user interface certain ones of the questions, including the first one of the questions, and branch to and display on the user interface the second and third ones of the questions, or else not branch to and display the second and third ones of the questions, responsive to an answer selected by the user and received by the second computer system for the first question and responsive to ones of the cross-references defining the associations among the first, second and third one of the questions.

instructions for causing a client to display on a user interface, responsive to the survey document, certain questions, including the first one of the questions, and branch to and display on the user interface the second or third one of the questions responsive to the survey document and an answer received for the first question.

16-17. (canceled)

18. (currently amended) The serverfirst computer system of claim 17, wherein the programming instructions include instructions for causing the clientsecond computer system to validate the data elements responsive to a document type definition file.

19. (currently amended) The serverfirst computer system of claim 18, wherein the programming instructions are included in a document that includes information for displaying by a browser running on the clientsecond computer system and directions for how the browser

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should display the information, and the instructions include instructions in an object oriented, interpreted, dynamic programming language.

20. (currently amended) The ~~server~~first computer system of claim 19 wherein the programming language includes Java.

21. (currently amended) The ~~server~~first computer system of claim 15, wherein the programming instructions include instructions for causing the ~~client~~second computer system to return survey results to the ~~server~~first computer system as a document defining the answers as data elements included in the survey document as strings of text surrounded by text markups, including tags, wherein the text markups describe the data elements.